

In addition, it is advantageous for a number of subscribers to be assigned to one group in the controller, it being possible to assign services and features to the group. These subscribers may be either subscribers to the line-switching communications network or subscribers to the packet-switching communications network. This ensures that, for example, subscriber lines of a company can be administered in a clearly organized way, in which case it is possible both to configure individual features for individual subscriber lines and to configure features jointly for subscriber groups or for all subscriber lines. The subscribers can be connected here to different switching offices of the packet-switching communications network and/or of the line-switching communications network. In this way, clearly organized administration of all the subscribers is possible from all the locations in a company in a simple and clearly organized way using the controller. Private subscriber lines of the employees of the company also can be included in this administration in an uncomplicated way. This is appropriate and advantageous, in particular, in the case of subscriber lines of "teleworkers". Using the controller also makes it possible to assign different subscribers to a "CENTREX" group and to administer the common service features and features of this CENTREX group easily using the controller. The subscribers to the CENTREX group can be subscribers to the line-switching communications network and/or of the packet-switching communications network here. In this way, intra-network subscriber administration is easily possible using a single controller.

Subscriber administration for subscribers to different communications networks is easily possible in an uncomplicated way using a telecommunications system for subscriber administration in different subscriber networks having the features of patent claim 23. The necessary settings in individual network components of the respective network are carried out automatically by the controller. The controller automatically carries out plausibility checks, it being possible for the controller to be configured in such a way that an operator is provided with only the setting facilities which are technically and administratively possible for the subscriber. Central administration of subscribers to the packet-

switching communications network and of the line-switching communications network is thus easily possible. An operator is provided with a uniform operating interface using the controller. The controller does not need to be informed that the first subscriber is a subscriber to the line-switching communications network and
5 that the second subscriber is a subscriber to a packet-switching communications network because for the operator the subscriber administration is carried out independently of the network. The need to train the operator in a wide variety of partially decentralized administration systems is dispensed with. The possibility of errors as a result of contradictory configurations of individual network elements
10 and/or features is dispensed with because of the uniform administration using the controller.

Additional features and advantages of the present invention are described in, and will be apparent from, the following Detailed Description of the Invention and the Figures.

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Figure 1 shows a telecommunications system with network elements of a line-switching communications network and of a packet-switching communications network, as well as of a central controller for subscriber administration.

Figure 2 shows a graphic user interface for selecting business customers of a
20 network operator.

Figure 3 shows the graphic user interface with a setting facility for subscribers of the business customer.

Figure 4 shows the graphic user interface with a setting facility for individual features of a selected subscriber.

Figure 5 shows the graphic user interface with a setting facility for
25 automatically updating number schedules.

Figure 6 shows the graphic user interface with a setting facility for access codes for activating and deactivating features via the individual subscribers.

Figure 7 shows a block circuit diagram in which the interaction of the
30 controller with the control units of the line-switching communications network and

of the packet-switching communications network, as well as with the network elements of these networks is shown.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Figure 1 illustrates a telecommunications system 10 for subscriber administration in various telecommunications networks. The telecommunications system 10 has network elements 12, 14, 16 of a line-switching communications network; for example, switching offices 12, 14, 16 of the public telephone network 48. These switching offices 12, 14, 16 are connected to one another by connecting lines (not illustrated) and form the public telephone network 48. Subscribers, of whom two telephone subscribers 26, 28 are illustrated, are connected to each of these switching offices 12, 14, 16. The telecommunications system 10 also has network elements 18, 20 with IP functions. Such network elements 18, 20 are, for example, SURPASS network elements from Siemens AG. These network elements 18, 20 can carry out both the subscriber signaling for subscribers 26, 28 of the telephone network 48 and for subscribers 30, 32 of a packet-switching communications network 34. The network element 18 is connected to a gatekeeper 22, and the network element 20 is connected to a gatekeeper 24. The gatekeepers 22, 24 are used to control connections and to control service features and features of a data network 34 which is based on an Internet protocol. The data network 34 which is based on the Internet protocol is also referred to as the IP network. The signaling in the IP network 34 is carried out using the H.323 signaling Standard. Two subscribers 30, 32 of the IP network 34 are illustrated, by way of example, for other subscribers. The subscriber administration, i.e. the administration of the subscribers 26 to 32 and their services and features is carried out using a central controller 36. This central controller 36 is also referred to as an IP business manager. The controller 36 has a number of operator terminals 38 to 36. The central controller 36 is connected to the network elements 12 to 20 and to the gatekeepers 22, 24 using administration connections; for example, using X.25 connections. The controller 36 has, in particular, access to the database of the respective network element 12 to 24. The subscribers 30, 32 of the IP network 34 are also provided